



TO: Outreach Partners and Interested Parties

FROM: *Prescription Advantage*

Date: February 23, 2006

BULLETIN

This bulletin is one in a series of routine updates regarding Prescription Advantage. These notices are designed to inform a broad network of outreach partners and other interested parties about Plan updates affecting both current and future Plan members.

Prescription Advantage Returns to Secondary Payer Status

On January 11, 2006, Prescription Advantage made a temporary system change to address the immediate problem of pharmacies not being able to bill the Medicare plans that are now providing the primary drug coverage for Prescription Advantage members. The system change involved switching all members from secondary to primary coverage status. Implementing this change allowed pharmacies to bill Prescription Advantage as a primary payer when a member's Part D enrollment could not be confirmed.

Since January we have continued to evaluate the situation daily and we are seeing a consistent increase in our secondary claim payments. We have determined that the issues that prevented pharmacies from being able to bill the Part D plans have decreased to a point that Prescription Advantage can return to processing as a secondary payer. Therefore, Prescription Advantage will switch back to secondary payer status effective **March 1, 2006**.

After this system change is made, Prescription Advantage will provide primary coverage for Medicare members on an individual and emergency basis only. Pharmacies will be required to call the Prescription Advantage Pharmacy Assistance Line to request primary coverage for an individual member.